exports during the corresponding period of last year as given below:

(Value in Rs. Crores)

	1990-91 (April-Nov.)	1991-92 (April-Nov.)	Increase
Total Exports of Leather & Leather products	1608.56	1896.15	17.9%
Exports to Germany	367.64	407.10	10.7%

Value of Import and Export of Agricultural products

1831. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity and price of the export and import of agricultural commodities during the last five years; and

(b) what is the share of agricultural commodities percentage wise, in the total exports and imports during the past five years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The infornration sought by the Hon'ble Member is available in the Economic survey 1991-92 presented to Parliament by the Union Minister of Finance during the current Session of Parliament. Copies of the Economic Survey 1991-92 are available in Parliament Library.

Supply of Iron Ore from Bailadilla to Japan

1832. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: SHRI S. MADHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Financial Express on 10th February, 1992 under the caption "Japan Success Story of Exploitation";

(b) whether undue pressure was put on MMTC to ensure supply of high grade iron ore from Bailadilla to Japan;

(c) what is the contracted quantity for export of high grade iron ore to Japan in the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(d) whether any agreement was signed with the Japanese Steel Mills for the export of iron ore in 1992-93;

(e) whether a cut in price together with the quantity of iron ore was agreed to resulting in loss; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Exports of iron ore to Japanese Steel Mills (JSMs) are being made under a five year long term contract concluded in pursuance to a Memorandum of Agreement signed jointly by MMTC, NMDC and KIOCL with JSMs in October, 1990. The contract provides for export of 11.53-13.75 million tonnes of iron ore per annum including 3.5-4.00 million tonnes of high grade lumpy ore from Bailadilla. The exact quantity within this range and prices are to be decided each year at the time of annual price negotiations. In terms of annual agreement for 1992-93 reached with JSMs on 31st Jan' 92, a quantity of 3 million tonnes of Bailadilla lumps is to be exported during 1992-93. The contract volume including high grade Bailadilla lumpy ore for 1993-94 and 1994-95 would be determined at the time of price negotiations each year.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) A price cut of 6.36%' for lumps and 4.90% for fines and concentrates agreed upon in the annual agreement for 1992-93 is the same as settled by JSMs with other major suppliers of iron ore, namely Brazil and Australia. No price settlement was reached for Kudremukh pellets pending finalisation of price of major pellet brands in the Japanese market. Export volume of Bailadilla lumpy ore was reduced from 4 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 3 million tonnes in 1992-93 due to pressure of domestic demand in India. JSMs reduced their in-take of ore from Paradeep (by 6 lakh tonnes) and from Madras (by 4 lakh tonnes) due to lower forecast of steel production during 1992-93, high inventory and high volume of carry over iron ore from current fiscal contracts. A price cut coupled with reduction in the quantity of iron ore to